

The dedication, the determination, the discipline of these young women is truly amazing. This is my hometown team, representing one of my alma maters, so I am especially proud of this outstanding group, but they have made all of Tennessee very proud, indeed.

Coach Pat Head Summitt, her assistants, Mickie DeMoss, Holly Warlick, Al Brown, and the Tennessee Lady Vols are great representatives for the sport of basketball and for this Nation.

#### ETHICAL STANDARDS IN POLITICAL FUND-RAISING

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Democrats' call for national standards in education reflects their high regard for high ethical standards when it comes to raising money for their political campaigns?

I have no doubt that the other side, so proud of what they did during the 1996 elections, have learned a few lessons from the most ethical administration in history. Selling the Lincoln bedroom to the highest bidder; White House coffees with the most impressive rogues gallery of drug smugglers, arms dealers and con artists ever assembled.

I wonder if the national standards they have in mind will help with the little "I do not recall problem" that seems to afflict the majority from the White House who are asked to come to Capitol Hill to testify about campaign finance law breaking.

I wonder if the national standards they have in mind will do anything about shaking down impoverished Indian tribes for money, using the power of the IRS to target America's most vulnerable citizens, or invading the privacy of ordinary citizens by illegally obtaining their FBI files.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker. I wonder.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. GEJDENSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, there was some debate yesterday on the floor about whether or not the majority party, the Republicans, were serious, coming to the floor with a bad campaign finance reform proposal, and setting up a procedure that meant they needed two-thirds of the House, not one-half-of-the-House-plus-one to win.

Well, I think there were two-thirds votes for something. There was two-thirds of the House at least that voted against the Republican proposal, and, frankly, it just shows how insincere this effort has been.

Mr. Speaker, we need to take back the political system in a way that will give the American people confidence. We have to put limits on spending. We have to decrease the amount of money

to campaigns, not increase the amount of money to campaigns, and we have to have an honest debate on this floor with not just the ideas that have been created inside the Republican caucus, which were even rejected by a large number of the Republicans, but the ideas that are out here in the American public.

I have a proposal to limit spending to a \$100 contribution from any person in the country; not thousands, not \$25,000, not \$75,000. Other people have other ideas. I believe in public financing. Many people agree with that; some disagree with that.

We ought to have an honest debate about these issues, and not let it die with the sham that occurred last night.

#### MAKING TAXES UNDERSTANDABLE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, this year, millions of Americans will buy new cars. We will go on to car lots and select cars of our choice, and be told how much they cost.

But think about it for a minute, how complicated it must be to price a car; tires, computer systems, the radios and speaker systems and bumpers. And then there are the labor costs involved in it, and the liability for the insurance, and the utilities for the factory.

It is indeed a very, very complicated process to bring a car to your lot nearest to you in your hometown and say that car costs \$31,286. It is a miracle of the capitalist system.

Now think in terms of what it is to pay your taxes. Have you paid your taxes yet? Probably not. Why not? Because it is too complicated. You know it is going to take hours and hours. You will have to sacrifice two or three evenings of your busy schedule, all to figure out what you owe Uncle Sam.

Why can the IRS not take a lesson from the motor companies and the private sector and just have clarity and simplicity, so that when you and I go to pay our taxes on April 15th, even though we might not like the amount, at least we understand what it is?

#### SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last week several of my colleagues and myself stood in the well of this House, and we talked to the American public about the Republican leadership's lunacy and their crazy idea to impose a 30 percent sales tax on the American public. Lunacy. A 30 percent increase in the sales tax, a national sales tax.

In the course of that debate, I spoke out and I said that Republicans want to say that Democrats are not for tax

cuts, and that we should not let them get away with saying that Democrats are not for tax cuts, because, quite frankly, Democrats have been standing on their feet talking about targeted tax cuts for working middle-class families in this country, and not the richest people in this country, which is where the Republican leadership and my colleague from Texas (Mr. DELAY) are coming from.

The gentleman from Texas, Mr. DELAY got up to speak this morning, and I say to him, watch the debate on the floor before you distort the words of a colleague. The CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is being corrected on how they misinterpreted the comments that I made.

We have the tape. You are going to have to eat your words.

#### DEFEAT OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to comment on yesterday's debacle. Some rose and said that this was legitimate campaign finance reform. The American public wants campaign finance reform. They do not want money to be the arbiter of the politics of America. They want money contributed honestly and reported effectively.

The chairman of the Committee on House Oversight, who offered these bills to the Congress, had one principal large bill. That bill, he said, would pass. We said it was a sham. The New York Times said it was a sham. The Washington Post said it was a sham. We were criticized on our side of the aisle for being partisan and saying it was a sham.

But, Mr. Speaker, when the vote was called, two-thirds of the majority party voted against their leadership's bill, including their leadership.

It was, indeed, a sham.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3579, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 402 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 402

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the